

CHAPTER NO. 768

SENATE BILL NO. 2488

By Cooper, Harper, Crutchfield, Mr. Speaker Wilder

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2429

By Odom, Black, Bowers, Ronnie Cole, Harwell, Sherry Jones

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-1-132; Section 63-7-106; Section 63-7-123 and Section 63-7-207, relative to nurses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 7, is amended by creating a new Section 63-7-126 as follows:

(a) "Advanced practice nurse" means a registered nurse with a Master's degree or higher in a nursing specialty and national specialty certification as a nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist.

(b) Nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and clinical nurse specialists holding such education and practice credentials may apply to the board for a certificate to practice as an advanced practice nurse including authorization to use the title "advanced practice nurse" or the abbreviation "APN". No other person shall assume such title or use such abbreviation or any other words, letters or signs to indicate that the person using the same is an advanced practice nurse.

(c) An applicant for a certificate to practice as an advanced practice nurse shall pay an initial fee as set by the board as well as a biennial renewal fee as set by the board.


(d) A nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife or clinical nurse specialist who holds a Tennessee registered nurse license in good standing and current national specialty certification in the advanced practice specialty shall be eligible for a certificate to practice as an advanced practice nurse upon passage of this act, and shall be exempt from the requirement of a Master's degree or higher in the nursing specialty if licensed in Tennessee and holding national specialty certification prior to July 1, 2005.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to alter or change the current law at the time of the enactment of this act regarding prescriptive rights, supervision, or scope of practice for nurse anesthetists regulated under this title, nurse midwives as described in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-2407, clinical nurse specialists, or certified nurse practitioners as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-123. Nor shall anything in this section be interpreted to allow any board or other entity to promulgate rules that would alter or change the law at the time of the enactment of this act regarding such prescriptive rights, supervision, or scope of practice.

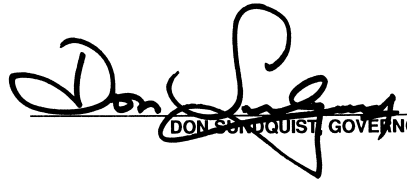
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 15, 2002


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 22nd day of May 2002


DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR